

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Julian called the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board to order at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Greg Julian – Supervisor, Dana Boomer - Clerk, Julia Carter – Treasurer, Roger Noonan – Trustee, Tad Carter - Trustee
Member(s) Absent: None
Staff Present: Sheree Nelson

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – The board briefly discussed the agenda. J. Carter will be presenting the Summer Tax Resolution under the Treasurer’s Report. **Noonan moved to approve the agenda as amended. J. Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jerry Konczel asked whether there had been any progress on tightening the nuisance restrictions, especially for new businesses. The board briefly discussed. There is being substantially more thorough reviews done by the Planning Commission of new Special Use Permits, but there have not been any amendments made by the board to the police-power nuisance ordinance.

MINUTES – The board discussed the minutes from the regular meeting on May 11, 2021. **J. Carter moved, Noonan seconded to approve the May 11, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

PERTINENT COMMUNICATIONS: Julian reported that he received a communication from the state congratulating the township on its perfect score on the assessing audit.

PRESENTATION: None – The Leelanau County Road Commission was scheduled to present, but the LCRC asked for additional time. This was moved to July.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

a) **TREASURER’S REPORT:** J. Carter presented the treasurer’s report to the board. Receipts total \$48,954.70. Disbursements \$19,767.08. Balance \$398,787.58. Boomer and J. Carter stated that the clerk’s books and treasurer’s books are in balance.

SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION – 10-2021

Summer tax is due and payable July 1 through September 14, 2021 for no interest. September 15 through February 28, 2022 interest is charged at a rate of 1% per month or part thereof. February 14 through February 28 Kasson Township assesses a 3% penalty on unpaid taxes. March 1, 2022 taxes become delinquent and are payable to the Leelanau County Treasurer only.

Boomer moved, T. Carter seconded to approve the Summer Tax Resolution, Resolution 10-2021. Roll call vote: Julian (yes), Boomer (yes), Noonan (yes), J. Carter (yes), T. Carter (yes). Motion carried.

b) **BUDGET REPORT:** Boomer and Nelson presented the budget report through May 2021. The board briefly discussed.

- c) **BILL APPROVAL** – Boomer and Nelson presented the updated check detail. The board briefly discussed. **Noonan moved to pay the bills as presented; seconded by J. Carter. All in favor, motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Cemeteries** – Boomer reported that she had contacted Zach Baker regarding surveying. His quote for surveying, including a site drawing, was a maximum of \$800. Baker felt that the amount would likely be closer to \$400-600, but that because it was an older legal description, it may take additional time to locate and/or place corner markers. His timeline is mid-August. **Noonan moved, T. Carter seconded to approve up to \$800 to hire Zach Baker to survey the East Kasson Cemetery. All in favor, motion carried.** The board asked Don Drabik to take a look at the sign for the Kasson Township cemetery to see if he has any thoughts on improving it.
- b. **Federal American Rescue Plan Act** – Additional guidance is still being released. The township now has SAM and DUNS numbers, and so is in compliance on that front.
- c. **Mining/Gravel Legislation** – Julian reported that he and Grier have been closely monitoring the gravel bills. The Senate did pass the current version of the gravel bills, which moved control of mining from local control to EGLE. This is disappointing for the township. The bill is now in the House, and will be moving into the House Local Governance and Municipal Finance Committee. Curt Vanderwall and Wayne Schmidt voted for the bills in the Senate, which can have a major impact on the citizenship of Kasson Township. The board is disappointed in the votes of the elected officials, and hopes that the bill is not approved by the House. The board and public briefly discussed the matter. Jerry Konczel feels this opens the state up to massive amounts of litigation. Don Drabik stated that he and other members of the Conservancy have been calling and writing to legislators to oppose these bills.
- d. **Other Unfinished Business** - None

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Other New Business** - None

CAPITAL PROJECTS – EXPLORATION

- a. **Maple City Sidewalks** – This project was being spearheaded by Keith Moore, and when he left it disrupted a number of things. This is likely going to be extended into 2023 or 2024. In addition, Julian is working with the Road Commission regarding signage and dangerous situations at the intersection of 616 and Maple City Road on the north side of the village. The County has been doing extensive work on roads in the township.
- b. **Broadband** – Natalie Wilson reported that on technical advisory committee. They have received the GIS files from the county, and have also been reviewing a survey being conducted by the county regarding service levels throughout the county. These reviews of service will affect the options for improving service, and from there the options for funding. The committee is putting together some options packages for township board discussion, which would then be used to develop the request for proposal. Wilson and the board briefly discussed.

- c. **Township Hall Renovation** – Julian met with Cooley Contracting and discussed some of the issues with the building. Julian has not yet received any proposals or quotes.
- d. **Fire Department Water Points** – Boomer has been working with Chief Doornbos on ideas for water points. They are meeting tomorrow with Casey Noonan regarding access to his well in Empire Township (just over the border from Kasson Township on M-72). They are also looking into what it would cost to place a tank in the vicinity of the township hall. Noonan suggested also looking into the idea of putting in a new well at the hall that could provide the needed water flow, versus installing a tank to be used with the existing well.
- e. **Fire Department New Station** – Julian spoke with Tim Stein regarding the possibility of Kasson and Cleveland working together to explore a new station. Stein supported the idea, and was going to discuss with the Cleveland Township Board. Julian summarized other fire department business – things are running smoothly at the department.

REPORTS: Planning Commission (PC) – T. Carter reported that the May meeting was held, and discussed the Lively project and the Master Plan. There was also a public hearing for the Lively project on June 4. There have been a number of concerns raised by the public about noise, fire, trespassing and traffic. The board briefly discussed – they encourage the PC to be very thorough in their review, as once granted, the approval cannot be revoked.

Zoning Administrator (ZA) – Cypher had submitted written reports to the board, and provided a summary of his activities for the month. The board briefly discussed. Noonan asked for Cypher to keep an eye on the Krull composing operation encroaching on neighboring properties – Julian will pass this along to Cypher.

Supervisor – Julian summarized his activities for the month. Julian was appointed to a non-voting advisory position with the Glen Lake Library. Julian requested permission to travel to Lansing to present regarding the gravel issues – the board had consensus to reimburse him for his expenses for such travel.

Assessor – Nothing to report – assessment business is being conducted as normal.

Fire Board – Fire Board business was previously discussed.

Clerk/Elections Report – There is officially an August election scheduled, with a millage proposal from the Glen Lake Library. Boomer is working on beginning the absentee ballot process. There is the possibility being discussed of a November election regarding the school. Boomer will be posting a meeting of the Election Commission after the July meeting for appointing election inspectors, and there will also be a special meeting of the Election Commission later in July for required testing. Nelson will be reformatting the budget to keep all of the fire fund information together, so there will be some visual changes to the budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Hall Use and Buildings and Grounds Reports – The hall has an upcoming use for July 11 for a graduation party. Julian stated that the park and cemeteries are looking good. The board requests that the hall be cleaned before and after the August election. Don Drabik stated that the sign design is to the sign shop, and is in the process of being produced.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jerry Konczel thanks the board for their support on Leelanau Coffee Roasting. The situation is much improved, although they do still sometimes smell the roasting process. Situations like this are why he would like to get the nuisance ordinance tightened up. Don Drabik stated that regarding the PC and SUPs – everything is geared toward tourism. He feels that the township should try to focus on year-round businesses and employees, rather than approving seasonal businesses. In addition, he and others have will continue to follow up with state representatives regarding their opposition to the current gravel legislation. He was happy to hear about the large number of people who attended the recent Planning Commission public hearing. Natalie Wilson stated that during an executive session today, Mr. Peacock, the county auditor, was concerned about the spending of the American Rescue Plan Funding before the regulations regarding spending are finalized. She recommended that the township wait until after regulations are finalized, to avoid future problems.

BOARD COMMENT: Noonan's biggest concern for the township is the fire protection and safety of the township. Seeing the millages for the library and maybe the school, he wishes some of that money could go for additional fire and police protection, in part in the form of a new fire station. There have been a number of very bad accidents in the region lately, and so he remains concerned about making sure the fire department and police have the money they need to protect the township appropriately.

Julian commented that these gravel bills are coming out of southern Michigan, not northern Michigan, but they will likely have a huge effect on northern Michigan. Julian stated that he had been contacted by the Glen Lake Association regarding the watershed overlay district – he will pass this along to Stella Otto.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7 pm, planned to be held in person.

Motion by Noonan to adjourn, second by Noonan / **All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by:
Dana Boomer, Township Clerk